

Y. M. C. A. Project Brings 4 Students Here From Africa

By MURRAY ILLSON

It was too warm for most New Yorkers yesterday but not for four newly arrived Congolese high school boys.

The African youths, wearing sport jackets and trousers of Ivy league cut, arrived at New York International Airport, and were taken to Sloane House of the Young Men's Christian Association, 356 West Thirty-fourth Street, for a news conference. They were greeted by two other Congolese high school students who arrived here Wednesday.

The boys' trip was sponsored by the Young Men's Christian Association of Pittsburgh. They will visit here for three days and then will spend some time at a Y. M. C. A. camp at Fonnell, Pa., where they will introduce Congolese handicrafts and games and take part in the regular camp program.

Since the newcomers speak only French and their tribal dialects, they will be accompanied by Sammy Shaumba, 18-year-old English- and French-speaking Congolese student at the Pennington School in Pennington, N. J. He is the son of Dr. Pierre Shaumba, executive secretary of the Protestant Council of the Congo.

Oldest Is 19

The boys who arrived here yesterday are Georges Bokamba, 17, and Prosper Bosila, 15, of the Coquilhatville area, and two who arrived earlier were Mundu Samson, 18, and Ngoie Mephie, 17, of the Elizabethville area.

The idea for the trip came from Edwin M. Bodenbaugh, a Pittsburgh industrialist who is a Y. M. C. A. director there. He said previous trips involved college students "whose ideas are already molded." He said that high school students were less likely to have "fixed political ideas" and that as a result of the trip the Congolese boys "will be exposed to American boys both colored and white and to American democratic ideals."

Speaking in French through young Shaumba, the newcomers said they came from tribes that frequently were mutually hostile. They said that so far they had not discussed politics.

Prosper, who said he lived on the equator, said yesterday's 93-degree heat presented no problem to him. He added that it seemed "almost like winter here" and the other boys appeared to agree with him.

The youths also seemed agreed that "Americans are much less reserved than Europeans," that "everything is so big here," that "everybody is in such a hurry" and that "people here eat too much."



The New York Times

STUDENTS HERE FROM THE CONGO: These high school students are to visit a Young Men's Christian Association camp in Pennsylvania, and take part in the camp program. From left are Ngoie Mephie, Mundu Samson, Joseph Moramba, Pascal Kayondo, Georges Bokamba and Prosper Bosila. They are shown outside Y. M. C. A.'s Sloane House.

Kennedy, Hoover Get 'Y' Honors

Chicago Defender
WASHINGTON — The West Broad Street YMCA of Savannah, Ga., has presented "Service of Youth" plaques to President John F. Kennedy and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, it was announced by Wilton C. Scott, chairman of the "Y's" board of management.

In ceremonies at the White House and FBI offices, Kennedy's award was for his "generous devotion to peace and better understanding among all people and all nations." Hoover was honored for his "work in combating crime and service to mankind."

Presidential Assistant Frank D. Reeves accepted for the president and Hoover personally received his plaque. A distinguished service plaque was also given to Reeves.

Scott, also Director of Public Relations and Alumni Affairs at Savannah (Ga.) State college, made the presentations.

YMCA Century club membership certificates were also given Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Temple Wannamaker, Director of Public Service, discussed "A Current Look U.S. Foreign Policy," and accepted the YMCA Century Club membership for the State department.

Negro Here Reelected by National 'Y'

The Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
An Atlanta insurance executive, T. M. Alexander Sr., has been elected to a third term as vice chairman of the board of directors of the national YMCA. He is the only Georgian and the only Negro layman on the national board, which approves and administers a budget of over \$7 million annually.

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Alexander is founder and president of Alexander & Co., Inc., general insurance agency of Atlanta. He is a member of the Mayor's Housing Committee, Citizens' Executive Committee on Urban Renewal and consultant on Minority Group Housing.

Y M C A

Alexander re-named to YMCA national board

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
ATLANTA — An Atlanta insurance executive, T. M. Alexander Sr., has been re-elected vice chairman of the board of directors of the National YMCA. It was the third time he has been elected to the 55 member policy-making body of the YMCA in America and Canada.

He is the only Georgian and the only colored layman holding a national office. The national board approves and administers a budget of over \$7 million annually.

Mr. Alexander will be one of the seventeen board members delegated to represent the American YMCA at the World Council of YMCA's with a membership of over 2½ million persons. The Atlanta was also appointed to serve on the executive committee of the National Board and the program and inter-racial commission.

Mr. Alexander is founder and president of Alexander and Company, Inc., general insurance agency of Atlanta, founder and chairman of the board of Alexander - Hollis Realty Company, and executive vice-president of Southeastern Fidelity Fire Insurance Company, the only colored-owned and operated multiple line fire insurance company in America, which he organized in 1949 and is now a million dollar organization.

He is also a member of the Board and an officer of the 10 million dollar colored-owned Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association of Atlanta, and treasurer of Consolidated Mortgage and Investment Company.

He serves as a member of the Volunteer Home Mortgage Credit Committee for District VI by Federal appointment.



T. M. ALEXANDER

Mr. Alexander is active in the civic, religious, and political life of Atlanta. He is a member of the Mayor's Housing Committee, Citizens' Executive Committee on Urban Renewal, and consultant on minority group housing.